

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the subject application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) An animal toy comprising a body portion, said body comprising a compressible material and a first non-woven fabric material disposed partially over said compressible material, said first fabric material comprising multiple layers of high performance fibers having a tensile strength greater than or equal to 50,000 psi and/or a modulus greater than or equal to 500,000 psi, wherein said high performance fibers comprise non-continuous staple fibers which are blended or interwoven with non-high performance fiber material wherein said fabric layers have an axis of orientation providing higher strength in one direction versus another direction and wherein an axis of orientation of one layer is not aligned with an axis of orientation of an adjacent layer; and

a second non-woven fabric material partially disposed over said compressible material and a portion of said first non-woven fabric material, said second non-woven fabric material comprising fibers having a tensile strength less than 50,000 psi and/or a modulus less than 500,000 psi, ~~wherein the first non-woven fabric material comprises fibers that have a first axis of orientation, and wherein said second non-woven fabric material comprise fibers having a second axis of orientation, and wherein said first and second axis of orientation are different.~~

Claim 2. (Previously Presented) The animal toy according to claim 1, wherein the tensile strength of said fibers of said first non-woven fabric material is greater than or equal to 100,000 psi.

Claim 3. (Previously Presented) The animal toy according to claim 1, wherein said tensile strength of said fibers of said first non-woven fabric material is greater than or equal to 200,000 psi.

Claim 4. (Previously Presented) The animal toy according to claim 1, wherein said modulus of said fibers of said first non-woven fabric material is at least 1 Mpsi.

Claim 5. (Previously Presented) The animal toy according to claim 1, wherein said modulus of said fibers of said first non-woven fabric material is between about 1 Mpsi and 30 Mpsi.

Claim 6-8. (Cancelled)

Claim 9. (Previously Presented) The animal toy according to claim 1, wherein said first and second axis of orientation intersect one another to form an angle of between 1-179 degrees.

Claim 10. (Previously Presented) The animal toy according to claim 1, wherein said first non-woven fabric material comprises aramid fiber.

Claim 11. (Previously Presented) The animal toy according to claim 1, wherein said first non-woven fabric material comprises polyethylene fiber.

Claim 12. (Original) The animal toy according to claim 1, wherein said compressible material comprises a foam material.

Claim 13. (Original) The animal toy according to claim 1, wherein said compressible material comprises at least one of natural and synthetic batting or fill.

Claim 14. (Original) The animal toy of claim 13 wherein said batting or fill is selected from the group consisting of polyester, nylon, cotton, wool, or mixtures thereof.

Claim 15. (Cancelled)

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Claim 16. (Previously Presented) The animal toy of claim 1, wherein said fibers of said first non-woven fabric material have a monoaxial orientation of greater than about 50%.

Claim 17-18. (Cancelled)

Claim 19. (Currently Amended) The animal toy of claim 1 wherein said body portion further comprises a third non-woven fabric material comprising fibers having a tensile strength greater than or equal to 50,000 psi and/or a modulus greater than or equal to 500,000 psi disposed partially over said first fabric material.

Claim 20. (Previously Presented) The animal toy of claim 19 wherein said first non-woven fabric material has a first axis of orientation and said third non-woven fabric material has a third axis of orientation at an angle of between 1-179 degrees from said first axis of orientation.

Claim 21. (Previously Presented) The animal toy of claim 1 wherein said first non-woven fabric material is selectively positioned on the animal toy at those locations that are more prone to the chewing or biting action of the animal.

Claim 22. (Previously Presented) The animal toy of claim 1 wherein said compressible material is isolated to certain regions of the animal toy.

Claim 23. (Currently Amended) An animal toy comprising a body portion, said body portion comprising a compressible material, a first non-woven fabric material disposed partially over said compressible material, and a second non-woven fabric material disposed partially over said first non-woven fabric material, said first and second non-woven fabric materials comprise high performance fibers having a tensile strength greater than or equal to 50,000 psi and/or a modulus greater than or equal to 500,000 psi, wherein said high performance fibers comprise non-continuous staple fibers

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and said first and second non-woven fabric materials include an axis of orientation, wherein said fabric materials have a higher strength in one direction versus another direction, and said axis of orientation of said first and second materials are not aligned relative to each other.

Claim 24. (Previously Presented) The animal toy of claim 23 wherein said compressible material is selected from the group consisting of foam, fiber based batting, fiber based fill, elastomeric material and shredded material.

Claim 25. (Previously Presented) The animal toy of claim 23 wherein said first non-woven fabric material and said second non-woven fabric material are adjacent and said axes of orientation are at an angle between 1-179 degrees relative to each other.

Claim 26 (New) The animal toy of claim 1 wherein said high performance fiber comprise aramid fiber, linear polyethylene fiber or spun liquid crystal polymer.

Claim 27. (New) The animal toy of claim 23 wherein said high performance fiber comprises aramid fiber, linear polyethylene fiber or spun liquid crystal polymer.